

Isabella Short ID5845 per Gilbert Henderson 1839

Isabella Short aged 16 or 19

Central Criminal Court April 1839, Crime Burglary, Transportation for life, Sentence reduced to 10 years – 5<sup>th</sup> August 1839, Gaol Report – Not Known

Series – HO 17, Piece Number – 126, Item Number YZ53

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12<sup>th</sup> April 1839

To the Right Honourable Lord John Russell Her Majesty's Principle Secretary of State for the Home Department.

The humble Petition of the afflicted mother of Isabella Short aged 16 years who was sentenced to transportation for life on Wednesday last, for having assisted in entering the prosecutors house and taking there from plate valued at £40.

Sheweth

That your petitioner is oppressed with a weight of grief and sorrow at this sad circumstance, for she brought up this unfortunate girl in the paths of honesty industry but in an evil hour she was led astray and committed the crime for which (with out the mercy interposition of Her Majesty's mild government) she must never see her native country more, if it should please your Lordship's to have her sentence mitigated which is the wish of the good gentlemen who was robbed of the plate and whose servant had orders to recommend her to mercy , when he attended to prosecute but neglected to do so, it will be an act of great consolation to her poor mother to think o9f seeing her child after the lapse of such time as to Her Majesty's government may seen meet.

And your Petitioner will ever pray

Jane Short

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The Most Noble the Marquis of Normanby Her Majesty's Principle  
Secretary of State for the Home Department.

My Lord

The humble Memorial of Jane Short , mother of Isabella Short who  
was convicted at the April Sessions of the Central Criminal Court of  
feloniously entering the house of ..... Koccker Esq. Dentist  
of Conduit Street Regent Street London in the company of Henry  
Phillips and who was sentenced to be transported for LIFE.

Most Humbly Sheweth

That your Memorialist Jane Short feels extremely grateful to your  
Lordship for your Lordships recommendation to Her Majesty by  
which her sentence had been commuted to transported for 10 years.  
Yet still your Memorialist begs to implore your Lordship will take the  
case of her only child into further consideration, so that she may be  
spared the pain of seeing her banished from her native country,  
which will be to your Memorialist a separation for life owing her to  
be advanced in years.

Your Memorialist is a widow who has always borne a respectable  
character , the prisoner Isabella Short is her only child to whom she  
had fondly looked forward for succor and comfort in her old age, the  
said Isabella Short had been seduced by the said Henry Phillips her  
fellow prisoner, who incited her to assist him to commit the offence  
for which she is now undergoing her sentence.

And your Memorialist will ever feel grateful to your Lordship for  
taking her case into your merciful consideration.

Jane Short

No 12 Castle East Street

Oxford Street.

London.

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12<sup>th</sup> April 1839

To the Right Honourable Lord John Russell

My Lord

I humbly beg to recommend Isabella Short to the merciful; consideration of Her Most Gracious Majesty through the interposition of your Lordship having promised to attend the trial and state to the Jury what I consider mitigating circumstances but the prisoner having pleaded guilty they were called up and sentenced to transportation for life by Mr Sergeant Arabin the prisoner Isabella Short is only 16 years of age and she is pregnant by the prisoner whom she was undoubtedly influenced in the commission of this her first offence she confessed her crime and seems truly penitent your Petitioner on the 11<sup>th</sup> attended at the Old bailey with a professional friend and urged these circumstances on the attention of the Learned Judge but the judgement having been recorded his Lordship referred your Petitioner to your Lordship, your Petitioner believing that justice would be satisfied by a commutation of the sentence humbly begs your Lordship's interference.

And your petitioner will ever pray.

L Thacker

G P Miles

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We the undersigned have known Jane Short for many years and most humbly pray that your Lordship will take her melancholy case into your kind and serious consideration.

L Thacker

N Pollard

Henry Dixon

And 13 more signatures

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